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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Mark A. Ritchart et al.  
Application No. : 09/894,356  
Filed : June 28, 2001  
Title : METHODS AND DEVICES FOR  
COLLECTION OF SOFT TISSUE



Group/Art Unit :  
Examiner :

Docket No. : END-770

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
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Name of person signing the Certificate

(Signature)

September 18, 2001  
(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and reconsider the above-identified  
application in view of the accompanying remarks.